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13 MAR 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
SUBJECT : U-2 Generator Brush Failures

25X1A 1. In regard to the generator brush failure problem which has grounded our U-2's for the last two days and about which I informed you at yesterday morning's staff meeting, Lockheed is now reasonably sure that they have isolated the problem. The problem appears to be that for some reason not yet determined, [REDACTED] produced a quantity of brushes that have turned "soft." This same generator is used on a number of military aircraft, and the Air Force has also had a sudden number of failures.

2. The "soft" brushes fortunately can be readily identified. Lockheed is running a series of tests today to insure that they have definitely determined that this is the problem. Mr. Kelly Johnson informs us today that he feels that he will be in a position to recommend release of our aircraft for operations by tomorrow.

Signed Herbert Scoville, Jr.


HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.
Deputy Director
(Research)

cc: DDCI


25X1A

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Signature recommended:


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